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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/567,708	02/07/2006	Stefano Petri	72125	3890
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EXAMINER WEISSMAN, JOSEPH M				
ART UNIT 4135		PAPER NUMBER		
NOTIFICATION DATE 07/09/2008		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/567,708

Applicant(s)

PETRI, STEFANO

Examiner

Joseph M. Weissman

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 February 2006.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 8 and 10 is/are rejected.
7) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 7 and 9 is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 February 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SI/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 07 Feb. 2006
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 1 objected to because of the following informalities:

"the transmission cylinder" has no antecedent basis for a second printing device or a first printing device. It is assumed by the examiner that "a cylinder" mentioned earlier is meant to be "a transmission cylinder". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 2, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Achelpohl et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,617,789, and further in view of Knauer, U.S. Patent 4,807,527.

Achelpohl et al. discloses claim **1, a distributor unit, comprising a reservoir containing a liquid substance, an anilox cylinder** (Screen roller 3, Figure 2, Column 4 Line 3, where the screen roller 3 is also an inking roller of an inking system, Column 1 Lines 10 ~ 11) **and a cliché cylinder** (Printing roller 2, Figure 2, Column 4 Line 3) **onto which is movably fitted a cliché jacketed** (Achelpohl et al. discloses the sleeve,

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cliché jacket, of the printing roller can be exchanged for a different sleeve, Column 5 Lines 38 ~ 40), **the reservoir, the anilox cylinder and the cliché cylinder being movable from and to a transmission cylinder** (Counterpressure cylinder 1, Figure 1, Column 3 Line 64) **on which travels a web-shaped material which has to receive said substance, the distributor unit having an operator side** (Thinner side rolling stand 5, Figure 3, Column 4 Line 1) **and a transmission side** (Thicker side rolling stand 4, Figure 3, Column 3 Line 67), **said anilox cylinder and said cliché cylinder being held by corresponding supports on operator side** (Spans 21 and 22, Figure 2, Column 4 Line 35) **and on transmission side** (Swivel fixed pivot brackets 6, 7, Figure 2, Column 4 Line 2), **the support on operator side of the cliché cylinder comprising a first** (Abutment 14, Figure 2, Column 4 Line 23) **and a second element** (Limit stop 13, Figure 2, Column 4 Line 23) **automatically movable from and to the cliché cylinder** (Achelpohl et al. discloses the limit stop 13 is adjusted by means of a driving gear 30, Figure 3, Column 4 Lines 27 ~ 30 and 42 ~ 49, and abutment 14 travels by means of a piston rod of pneumatic cylinder 50, Figure 4, Column 5 Lines 29 ~ 32), **which elements in configuration of use hold the cliché cylinder on the operator side and in configuration of substitution of cliché jacket are reciprocally spaced disengaging the operator side of the cliché cylinder** (Achelpohl et al. discloses when a sleeve of the printing roller 2 is exchanged, the abutment 14 is moved away from the bearing 10 of the printing roller and limit stop 13 is pushed away from the bearing 10, Figure 4, Column 5 Lines 39 ~ 48), **said second element of the support on operator side of the cliché cylinder being associated to a corresponding**

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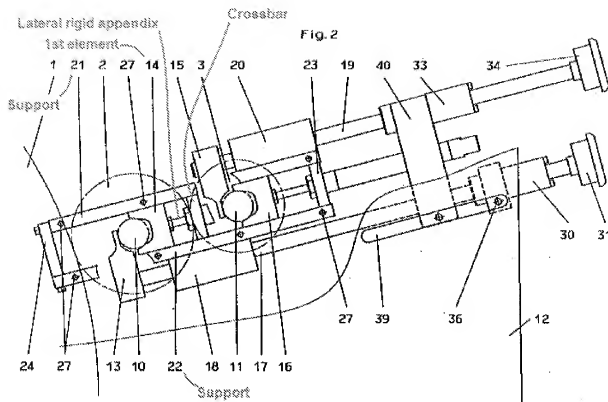
actuator (Driving gear 30, Figure 2, Column 4 Line 49) **which controls its movement from and to the axis of the cliché cylinder characterized by the fact that said second element of the support on operator side of the cliché cylinder constitutes a stop for the distributor unit when the latter moves forwards towards said transmission cylinder** (Figure 3 of Achelpohl et al. shows the limit stop 13, second element, constituting a stop for the print roller 2 and subsequent screen roller 3).

Achelpohl et al. discloses swivel fixed pivot brackets 6, 7 in the thicker side rolling stand 4 which cantilever the printing roller 2 and screen roller 3, Figure 3, Column 4 Lines 1 ~ 3, but do not disclose **a device for locking the cliché cylinder in cantilever position when the corresponding cliché jacket has to be substituted**. Knauer teaches **a device** (Auxiliary shaft 10, Figure 1, Column 2 Line 65) **for locking the cliché cylinder** (Cylinder 3, Figure 1, Column 2 Line 64) **in cantilever position when the corresponding cliché jacket** (Sleeve 12, Figure 1, Column 2 Line 64) **has to be substituted** (Knauer teaches auxiliary shaft 10 is initially clear of shaft end 5 of cylinder 3 and engages shaft end 5 upon rotation to maintain cylinder 3 in a fixed position for applying sleeve 12, Figure 1, Column 3 Lines 4 ~ 40).

To one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to combine Achelpohl et al.'s invention with Knauer 's invention to support a cylinder for re-sleeving where no external support apparatus is necessary, the support for the cylinder can be integrated with existing components of a printing machine, or readily adapted to be added to a printing machine, which is simple and reliable (Knauer, Column 2 Lines 9 ~ 14).

Achelpohl et al. and Knauer teach a **distributor unit according to claim 1**, and Achelpohl et al. further discloses claim **2, characterized by the fact that it is a color unit for printing machines** (Achelpohl discloses an embodiment represented in figure 1 exhibiting an eight-color rotary printing press where four frames 21-24 are fastened by means of studs 27 in eight holes 26 in the plate 12 which can swung in the manner of a door, Figure 1, Column 4 Lines 37 ~ 41); **said substance contained in said reservoir being ink** (Achelpohl discloses screen roller 3 is also an inking roller of an inking system, Column 1 Lines 10 ~ 11).

Achelpohl et al. and Knauer teach a **distributor unit according to claim 1**, and Achelpohl et al. further discloses claim **6, characterized by the fact that the linkage between said first element and the support on operator side of the anilox cylinder is realized by means of a lateral rigid appendix of the element said appendix being connected to the support** (Figure 2 shows the abutment 14, first element, with a lateral rigid appendix connected to spans 21, 22, the support, via a crossbar as indicated by examiner's modified figure 2 shown below).



Achelpohl et al. and Knauer teach a **distributor unit according to claim 1**, and Achelpohl et al. further discloses claim 8, **characterized by the fact that said first and second elements of the support on operator side of the cliché cylinder are disposed on opposite sides in respect to the latter** (Figure 2 shows abutment 14, first element, and limit stop 13, second element, on opposite sides of the antifriction bearing 10 of the print roller 2, Figure 2, Column 4 Lines 21 ~ 23).

Achelpohl et al. and Knauer teach a **distributor unit according to claim 1**, and Achelpohl et al. further discloses claim 10, **characterized by the fact that said first**

element is provided with a concavity facing the cliché cylinder (Figure 2 shows abutment 14, first element, with a concavity faceting the bearing 10 of the printing roller 2).

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Achelpohl et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,617,789, and Knauer, U.S. Patent 4,807,527 as applied to claims 1, 2, and 8 above, and further in view of Marschke et al., U.S. Patent 5,628,868.

Achelpohl et al. and Knauer disclose a **distributor unit according to claim 1**, but does not teach providing glue as the liquid substance.

Marschke et al. teaches a liquid applicator apparatus utilizing a cylindrical glue roll 18, Figure 1, Column 4 Line 52, and claim **3 characterized by the fact that the substance contained in said reservoir** (Glue pan 23, Figure 1, Column 4 Line 59) **is glue**.

To one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to combine Achelpohl et al. and Knauer's inventions with Marschke et al. 's invention since it is well known in the art for roll-type applicators as a means to apply adhesives to running web (Column 1 Lines 11 ~ 12) and provide a simple but effective assembly for applying a liquid adhesive to a moving web or sheet material (Column 2 Lines 35 ~ 37).

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Achelpohl et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,617,789, and Knauer, U.S. Patent 4,807,527 as applied to claims 1, 2, and 8 above, and further in view of Weaver, U.S. Patent 4,022,125.

Achelpohl et al. and Knauer disclose a **distributor unit according to claim 1**, but does not teach providing softening liquid as the liquid substance, while Weaver does.

Weaver teaches a dampening system utilizing a fountain roller 40, Figure 2, Column 7 Line 65, and claim 4, **characterized by the fact that the substance contained in said reservoir** (Reservoir 38, Figure 2, Column 7 Line 65) **is a softening liquid** (Dampening liquid, Figure 2, Column 7 line 66).

To one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to combine Achelpohl et al. and Knauer's inventions with Weaver's invention since it is well known in offset printing to provide a plurality of ink roller devices and a dampening liquid supply system that applies dampening liquid to a printing plate to coat the photographic printing plate which causes ink to be repelled only on those portions of the printing plate that have not been prepared to receive ink (Column 1 Lines 26 ~ 40). Weaver's invention also provides a dampening system for offset printing that effectively allows run in time and preliminary paper runs to be maintained as low as possible to achieve efficient productive printing.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5, 7, and 9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 5 is indicated as having allowable subject matter because the prior art of record does not teach or render obvious the total combination claimed, including **the motion of the support causing the movement of the elements.**

Claim 7 is indicated as having allowable subject matter because the prior art of record does not teach or render obvious the total combination claimed, including **an elastic means interposed between the appendix of the first element and the support on operator side of the anilox cylinder.**

Claim 9 is indicated as having allowable subject matter because the prior art of record does not teach or render obvious the total combination claimed, including **the supports on transmission side of the anilox cylinder and of the cliché cylinder are provided, respectively, with an elastic stop and with a rigid stop.**

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Prem et al., U.S. Patent 5,802,975, which teaches two jaws 25, 26 holding a printing cylinder 22 that reciprocally spaced allow the replacement of sleeve 24 and

teaches the cylinder held in a cantilever position with a structure holding the cylinder in place as shown in figure 3.

Freddo et al., U.S. Patent 6,615,716 B1, which teaches a multi-color flexographic printing press with a movable slide 10, driven by electric motors 22, with a holding device 38 for a printing plate cylinder 5, and the printing plate cylinder 5 held in a cantilever position for replacing a printing plate 7 as shown in figures 1 and 2.

Zeman et al., U.S. Patent 6,142,073, which teaches a printing press which enables movement of the plate roll 38 and anilox roll 39 via a plate carriage 53 and anilox carriage 61, and also teaches the carriages 53, 61 spacing apart via stepper motor 71 for replacement of the plate roll sleeve 105.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph M. Weissman whose telephone number is (571) 270-5301. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 7:30am to 5:00pm EST with every other Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Brewster can be reached on (571) 272-1854. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/J. M. W./
Examiner, Art Unit 4135

/Ren L Yan/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2854